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**In the Claims:**

Applicants request amendment of claim 17 as shown below.

13. (previously presented) A process for the production of a protein by a cell in culture, comprising:

(a) providing a eukaryotic cell that constitutively produces a protein,  
and

(b) culturing said eukaryotic cell on a medium comprising an alkanoic acid component selected from the group consisting of:

- (i) alkanoic acids,
- (ii) salts of alkanoic acids, and
- (iii) a combination of alkanoic acids and salts of alkanoic acids,

said alkanoic acid component maintained in the medium at a concentration of about 0.075 mM or less.

14. (previously presented) A process according to claim 13 comprising first culturing said eukaryotic cell on a cell culture medium that does not contain an alkanoic acid component, prior to culturing on a medium containing an alkanoic acid component.

15. (previously presented) A process according to claim 13, further comprising separating said protein from the culture medium.

16. (previously presented) A process according to claim 13 where said eukaryotic cell is cultured on said medium comprising an alkanoic acid component for at least ten days.

17. (currently amended) A process according to claim 13, further comprising subculturing the cell culture resulting from step (b), said subculture on medium comprising an alkanoic acid component selected from the group consisting of:

- (i) alkanoic acids,

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(ii) salts of alkanolic acids, and

(iii) a combination of alkanolic acids and salts of alkanolic acids, said alkanolic acid component maintained in the subculture medium at a concentration of less than ~~0.1~~ 0.075 mM.

18. (previously presented) A process according to claim 13 wherein said alkanolic acid component is a straight chain C<sub>2-10</sub>.

19. (previously presented) A process according to claim 13 wherein said alkanolic acid component is a straight chain C<sub>3-6</sub>.

20. (previously presented) A process according to claim 13 wherein the alkanolic acid component is selected from the group consisting of butyric acid and metal salts of butyric acid.

21. (previously presented) A process according to claim 13 wherein the alkanolic acid component is sodium butyrate.

22. (previously presented) A process according to claim 13 wherein the concentration of said alkanolic acid component is less than about 0.075 mM but greater than 0.025mM.

23. (previously presented) A process according to claim 13, wherein said concentration of said alkanolic acid component is less than about 0.075 mM but greater than 0.05mM.

24. (previously presented) A process according to claim 13, wherein said concentration of said alkanolic acid component is about 0.075 mM.

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25. (previously presented) A process according to claim 13 wherein said eukaryotic cells are selected from non-immunoglobulin secreting mouse myeloma B cells (NSO) and Chinese Hamster Ovary (CHO) cells.

26. (previously presented) A process according to claim 13 wherein said protein is selected from the group consisting of hormones, enzymes, enzyme inhibitors, lymphokines, and immunoglobulins.

27. (previously presented) A process according to claim 13 wherein said protein is an immunoglobulin.

28. (previously presented) A process for the production of a protein by a cell in culture, comprising:

- (a) providing a eukaryotic cell that constitutively produces a protein,  
and
- (b) culturing said eukaryotic cell on a medium comprising an alkanoic acid component selected from the group consisting of:
  - (i) butyric acid,
  - (ii) metal salts of butyric acid, and
  - (iii) a combination of butyric acid and a metal salt of butyric acid,

said alkanoic acid component maintained in the medium at a concentration of about 0.075 mM or less.

29. (previously presented) A process according to claim 28 comprising first culturing said eukaryotic cell on a cell culture medium that does not contain an alkanoic acid component, prior to culturing on a medium containing an alkanoic acid component.

30. (previously presented) A process according to claim 28, further comprising separating said protein from the culture medium.

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31. (previously presented) A process according to claim 28 where said eukaryotic cell is cultured on said medium comprising an alkanolic acid component for at least ten days.

32. (previously presented) A process according to claim 28 wherein the alkanolic acid component is sodium butyrate.

33. (previously presented) A process according to claim 28 wherein the concentration of said alkanolic acid component is less than about 0.075 mM but greater than 0.025mM.

34. (previously presented) A process according to claim 28, wherein said concentration of said alkanolic acid component is less than about 0.075 mM but greater than 0.05mM.

35. (previously presented) A process according to claim 28, wherein said concentration of said alkanolic acid component is about 0.075 mM.

36. (previously presented) A process according to claim 28 wherein said eukaryotic cells are selected from non-immunoglobulin secreting mouse myeloma B cells (NSO) and Chinese Hamster Ovary (CHO) cells.

37. (previously presented) A process according to claim 28 wherein said protein is selected from the group consisting of hormones, enzymes, enzyme inhibitors, lymphokines, and immunoglobulins.

38. (previously presented) A process according to claim 28 wherein said protein is an immunoglobulin.